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Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 19 October 2007, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Kerim ..... (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)
(President of the General Assembly)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Organization of the sixty-second regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (*continued*)

Memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/62/1); *first report of the General Committee* (A/62/250)

1. **The Chairman** recalled that, at its previous meeting, the General Committee had decided to postpone to a later date its consideration of the question of the inclusion of the item entitled "Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte". That decision was reflected in paragraph 50 of the first report of the General Committee to the General Assembly (A/62/250).

2. **Mr. Zinsou** (Benin), supported by **Ms. Brazier** (United Kingdom), said that, following consultations with the two countries concerned, he wished to propose that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly that it should defer consideration of the item in question until its sixty-third session.

3. *It was so decided.*

Request for the inclusion of an additional item: note by the Secretary-General (A/62/231)

4. **The Chairman** drew attention to the request submitted by the Secretary-General for the inclusion in the agenda of the current session of an additional item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad" (A/62/231).

5. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that an additional item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad" should be included in the agenda of the current session under heading 1 (organizational, administrative and other matters).*

6. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the additional item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.*

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Kazakhstan (A/62/232)

7. **The Chairman** drew attention to the request submitted by Kazakhstan for the inclusion in the agenda of the current session of an additional item entitled "Observer status for the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia" (A/62/232). In accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure, the representative of Kazakhstan had asked to participate in the discussion of the item.

8. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Sadykov (Kazakhstan) took a place at the Committee table.*

9. **Mr. Sadykov** (Kazakhstan) said that, in its capacity as President of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia, his delegation was requesting the inclusion of an additional item, entitled "Observer status for the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia", in the agenda of the current session of the General Assembly. The Conference, an intergovernmental body whose aims and principles were in line with those embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, currently had 18 member States — Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, China, Egypt, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Palestine, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Uzbekistan — and a number of observers, including Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Ukraine, the United States of America, Viet Nam, the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the League of Arab States. Its secretariat had been established in 2006 and was located in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

10. In a message to the Conference's second Summit, which had taken place in 2006, the Secretary-General of the United Nations had said that the organization had an important role to play in promoting cooperation, peace and friendship throughout Asia. Granting the Conference observer status would allow it to work more effectively with the United Nations in the pursuit of international peace and security.

11. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that an additional item entitled "Observer status for the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia" should be included in the agenda of the current session under heading 1 (organizational, administrative and other matters).*

12. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the additional item should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

13. *Mr. Sadykov (Kazakhstan) withdrew.*

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Saudi Arabia (A/62/233)

14. **The Chairman** drew attention to the request submitted by Saudi Arabia for the inclusion in the agenda of the current session of an additional item entitled "Observer status for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf" (A/62/233). In accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure, the representative of Saudi Arabia had asked to participate in the discussion of the item.

15. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Sallam (Saudi Arabia) took a place at the Committee table.*

16. **Mr. Sallam** (Saudi Arabia) said that the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf played an important role in strengthening cooperation among the Gulf States.

17. **The Chairman** said that the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran had asked to participate in the discussion of the item. Rule 43 of the rules of procedure did not apply. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to accede to his request.

18. *It was so decided.*

19. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Salsabili (Islamic Republic of Iran) took a place at the Committee table.*

20. **Mr. Salsabili** (Islamic Republic of Iran), drawing the Committee's attention to the title of the organization at issue, expressed his dismay at the use of an incorrect, ambiguous and misleading term to designate the Persian Gulf. Since time immemorial, the body of water lying between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula had been referred to by historians and geographers as the "Persian Gulf", and, as emphasized by the United Nations in past decades, that name was the only standard and universally recognized term for the body of water in question.

21. **Mr. Sallam** (Saudi Arabia) said that, as evidenced by the certificate of registration contained in document A/62/233 (enclosure III), the organization in question was officially registered with the United Nations as the "Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf" and did not wish to change its name. If the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran wished to pursue the matter, it could submit a memorandum to the Secretary-General.

22. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that an additional item entitled "Observer status for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf" should be included in the agenda of the current session under heading 1 (organizational, administrative and other matters).*

23. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the additional item should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

24. *Mr. Sallam (Saudi Arabia) and Mr. Salsabili (Islamic Republic of Iran) withdrew.*

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea (A/62/234)

25. **The Chairman** drew attention to the request submitted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea for the inclusion in the agenda of the current session of an additional item entitled "Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula" (A/62/234). In accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea had asked to participate in the discussion of the item.

26. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Pak Gil Yon (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) and Mr. Kim Hyun Chong (Republic of Korea) took places at the Committee table.*

27. **Mr. Pak** Gil Yon (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that the inter-Korean summit held in Pyongyang from 2 to 4 October 2007 and the adoption of the Declaration on the Advancement of North-South Korean Relations, Peace and Prosperity represented a significant milestone in efforts to secure peace and prosperity on the Korean peninsula and the eventual reunification of the Korean nation by further developing North-South relations on the basis of the joint declaration of 15 June 2000 and in the spirit of "by our nation itself".

28. In those circumstances, a General Assembly resolution welcoming and supporting the summit and the Declaration would serve to further encourage the Korean people's ongoing efforts. Accordingly, and acting jointly with the delegation of the Republic of

Korea, he wished to propose the inclusion in the agenda of the sixty-second session of an additional item entitled "Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula".

29. **Mr. Kim** Hyun Chong (Republic of Korea) said that, both during the summit and in the Declaration, the leaders of the two States had clearly expressed their commitment to peace and denuclearization on the Korean peninsula. To that end, the Declaration included a comprehensive agreement on the future direction of inter-Korean relations, focusing on three areas: the establishment of peace; inter-Korean economic cooperation; and reconciliation and unification. Those developments represented a major milestone in efforts to improve inter-Korean relations, paving the way for common prosperity and eventual peaceful reunification and resolving long-standing regional concerns.

30. In that context, the Governments of the two States had agreed to submit a joint proposal requesting the inclusion of the aforementioned additional item in the agenda of the sixty-second session. In that regard, it was appropriate to recall that, on 31 October 2000, the General Assembly had adopted resolution 55/11, in which it had welcomed and supported the inter-Korean summit of June 2000 and the related joint declaration, under an agenda item of the same title.

31. **The Chairman** said that the representative of Indonesia had asked to participate in the discussion of the item. Rule 43 of the rules of procedure did not apply. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to accede to his request.

32. *It was so decided.*

33. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Natalegawa (Indonesia) took a place at the Committee table.*

34. **Mr. Natalegawa** (Indonesia) said that, as a country with close ties to both the States concerned, Indonesia had consistently supported the process of inter-Korean dialogue, reconciliation and reunification. Furthermore, as a South-East Asian nation, Indonesia had always recognized the tremendous potential of peace on the Korean peninsula for the wider region. The recent inter-Korean summit and the Declaration constituted a major milestone in inter-Korean relations. Along with the progress made in the recent six-party talks in Beijing, the Declaration had great significance for peace and security both on the Korean peninsula and in the region as a whole.

35. It was incumbent on the United Nations to welcome and encourage those developments because the pursuit of reconciliation was fully in keeping with the ideals embodied in the Charter. He therefore urged the members of the General Committee to lend their unqualified support to the joint request before them.

36. **Mr. Zinsou** (Benin) said that support for the reunification of the Korean peninsula was an ongoing part of Benin's foreign policy, since such reunification would contribute significantly to the maintenance of international peace and security. Accordingly, he expressed his support for the request of the two States.

37. **Mr. Li** Junhua (China), supported by **Mr. Ali** (Malaysia), expressed his support for the request submitted jointly by the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea. The recent summit and the Declaration represented an important contribution to the ongoing efforts to improve inter-Korean relations and would pave the way for peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and its eventual reunification.

38. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that an additional item entitled "Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula" should be included in the agenda of the current session under heading A (maintenance of international peace and security).*

39. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the additional item should be allocated to the plenary Assembly.

The meeting rose at 10.40 a.m.